

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KINSHA 10326 010905Z

20

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 SS-20

STR-08 CEA-02 L-03 H-03 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

AGR-20 INT-08 PM-07 DRC-01 /222 W

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R 301730Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5715

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

S E C R E T KINSHASA 10326

E.O. 11652: XGDS (2)

TAGS: PFOR, CG, US

SUBJECT: MOBUTU REASSURES US ON NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES

REF: KINSHASA 10188, KINSHASA 10325

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER NOVEMBER 30 MAJOR ECONOMIC SPEECH TO NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE CONSIL (REFTEL), MOBUTU SENT WORD TO AMBASSADOR THAT US BUSINESS COMMUNITY SHOULD REMAIN TRANQUIL. CLEAR IMPLICATION WAS SENT THAT MAJORITY OF NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES WOULD NOT SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECT EXISTING AND PLANNED AMERICAN INVESTMENTS IN ZAIRE. OUR PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS, BASED ON RADIO VERSION OF SPEECH, TENDS TO SUPPORT THIS VIEW. MAIN PROVISION, FROM US STANDPOINT, IT WHETHER FIFTY PERCENT GOZ PARTICIPATION IN MINING CONCESSIONS RETROACTIVE OR NOT. WE EXPECT THIS TO BE CLARIFIED OVER THE WEEKEND WHEN HOPEFULLY AMBASSADOR SEES BISENGIMANA (KINSHASA 10188).

2. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR VANDEN BLOOCK WALKED OUT IN MIDDLE OF SPEECH DURING CRITICISM OF COB'S EXPLOITATION

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PAGE 02 KINSHA 10326 010905Z

OF CONGO DURING COLONIAL TIMES AND BEFORE MOST

SUBSTANTIVE DECISIONS ANNOUNCED. ON GOOD AUTHORITY
WE UNDERSTAND MOBUTU FURIOUS AT VANDEN BLOOCK AND
CONSIDERS HIM "FINISHED" IN ZAIRE BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR
THAT HE WILL GO SO FAR AS TO PNG HIM.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

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